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Sermon Outlines

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Sermon Outlines; 1923

J. Edward Nash, Sr.

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Sermon Outlines, 1923

1923-24
Sermon Outlines Among them
Mrs. Mary B. Talbert Oct. 17-23
13th Anniversary 2nd Bapt. Ch. Detroit Mich.
N.Y. Colored St. Convention Nov. 1st 23
Albany, N.Y.

26 '23

John 14:26

M

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Most every body, if not every body in this old world is seeking comfort. But if testimony is to be depended upon, not very many are finding it. And if they are seeking earnestly, we naturally want to know why they do not succeed.

As little as we may think about it, man is pre-eminently spiritual. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that if his uppermost desires are carnal, that in his seeking he fails to find comfort.

Long ago, the Master said, man can not live by bread alone. But that he must live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. His Word is the truth that we must know and live if we would be comfortable.

Most of us have resorted to men and things in our search for comfort, and in our mad rush we have lost sight of the one whom God has appointed to give comfort. So let us give, from this time on the Holy Spirit a chance to comfort us. Our thought is,

The Holy Spirit Our Greatest Comforter. Let us observe that the Holy Spirit is our greatest comforter:-

- 1-Because he is sent by the Father.
- 2-Because he is sent in the name of Jesus.
- 3-Because he is sent to be our Teacher.
- 4-Because he is sent to teach the things that men need to know.
- 5-Because he refreshes the memory upon the things that Jesus has spoken.

As we seek comfort, let us, as it is our privilege, seek under the guidance and leadership of the Holy Spirit.

.....Amen.....

Jan. 7 '23

Matt. 5:16

V

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Periodically our factories, commercial institutions, art galleries, and studios assemble their products-put them on exhibition, that many, who would not otherwise, may see and know the good work that is being done in these institutions. If these products meet the approval and get the endorsement of the observers, then the heads of these various institutions receive praise, and glory and honor from these observers. But even concerning these matters our text exhorts us so to exhibit our good work, so throw light upon it and to explain it as to cause men who observe to glorify our Father the great head of all.

Our Theme at this time is,

Working For The Glory Of God. Let us observe:-

- 1-That if we work for the glory of God our work will be profitable.
- 2-That if we work for the glory of God our work will be lasting.
- 3-That if we work for the glory of God our work will be attractive.
- 4-That, if we work for the glory of God our work will be a work of pleasure.
- 5-That if we work for the glory of God our work will be a work in which all can readily cooperate.

Let us all look well to God's program for the year 1923. May each of us endeavor to do the kind of work that we will not be ashamed to exhibit, and that God will not be ashamed to honor.

.....Amen.....

Jan. 7 '23 PS. 90:12 M Co. Pen. 9 A.M.

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

God has given us many blessings that have not meant very much to us, because we have not understood their value. Time is such a blessing. Time when properly used, means health wealth and happiness. But time must be used according to the plan and purpose of him who gives it. Hence the pleading of Moses in this PS. from which we take our text. And may his pleading be our pleading this first Sunday in the new year. Let us observe:-

1-That God will teach us to number our days according to the work that he has for us to do.

Each man is intended to be a partner-a coworker with God. No man is wise, no man is doing his best who fails to recognize this important fact. It does not require very much wisdom to do the little bit of petty insignificant things that too many of us seem to be satisfied to do.

2-That God will teach us to number our days according to the truth that he would have us learn.

Not many of us have even begun to learn the great and important things about ourselves, about God and this old world in which we live that God wants us to know.

3-That God will teach us to number our days according to the prize that he would have us win.

The greatest possession that can come to any one and all of us is eternal life. This prize we win by letting God teach us how to number our days.

Whatever we do let us number-label our days according to God's plan so that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

.....Amen.....

Jan. 7 '23

Heb. 12:1

M

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race set before us,

As at the beginning of other years, so we have all started the 1923 stretch of the race of life. It is not necessary for us to ask, who started? For we have all started, and we are all in the race today. So it is not a question of our getting into the race, but we must consider the circumstances that accompany the race and the conditions upon which the race is to be run.

Let us consider,

The Christian's Race Of Life. Let us observe:

- 1- That it is not a competitive but a race of endurance.
- 2- That it is a race that is to be run in prescribed limits.
- 3- That it is a race in which only personal effort counts.
- 4- That those who run in this race must have an abundant patience.
- 5- That it is a race in which all who enter may win.
- 6- That this race will be difficult or easy according to the direction in which we look.

May each of us use the Holy Spirit as our great teacher, so that we may know how to run the race that is set before us.

.....Amen.....

Jan. 14 '23

John 3:17

M

For God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

This is not just the word the world was expecting, and for which much of it was wishing. At the time when this word was spoken most of the world was under the iron heel of cruelty, injustice and oppression.

At the time this word was spoken the cause of real righteousness and God was being neglected by most all the world. At this time the world was slandering her priests, stoning her prophets, killing them that were sent unto them from God, worshiping idols and profaning the temple of God.

If the world ever deserved to be condemned surely it was at this time we would say. But how disappointed we all are when from our text we hear God's decree. The very one that, we would suppose, because of his goodness and holiness and perfection, be commissioned to sit in judgement upon this old world and condemn it, is ordered to reform, transform and rebuild it.

We observe, that Christ's mission, and the mission of the Church in the world is:-

- 1-To organize society for mutual benefit, so that each one may be saved to the profit of his fellow-men.
- 2-To present to the world a large comprehensive program, which includes every need of humanity.
- 3-To give to the world the laws the rules, which society shall follow in working out the given program.

Let us remember, that like our great Head that our work is to save not to condemn the world. May we seek earnestly the wisdom that we need and must have if we are to do this.

.....Amen.....

Jan. 28 '23

Heb. 12:12, 13

V

Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; and make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed.

As little as we may think about it, indolence, laziness and desire for ease have much to do with the unrest and disorder in the world to day.

There are too many hands that hang down; and there are too many timid weak kneed people, who by their indolence and indifference not only do nothing to make straight paths, but positively help to make crooked ones for their own feet and for those who are unable to walk them without stumbling and falling. Hence the lame is handicaped and the chances for his recovery-his healing are distroyed.

Let us observe, that the world-s work demands:-

- 1-Men with resolution, determination and strength.
- 2-Men who are fearless and courageous. Not weak kneed
- 3-Men who are clean and honest, who will make crooked things straight.
- 4-Men who are unselfish, who will not work and legislate simply for themselves.
- 5-Men who are interested in humanity and its need, who will work for the interest of the weak and the lame.

Let us make much of the ability that God has given to us and let us use it not alone for ourselves, but fo the good of others also.

.....Amen.....

Feb. 4 '23

Matt. 26:F.C.41

V

Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation.

After the best of us have done all possible to make ourselves safe and secure, we find ourselves surrounded by all kinds of dangers, and exposed to the greatest temptations.

We leave the vicious polluted district and move into the best community and surround ourselves with people of wealth, culture and refinement; with magnificent homes, clean streets, beautiful lawns, and flower gardens.

In this community we have Church, and school, art gallery and library at our disposal. But we are not in this community long before we are made to understand that none and all of these agencies combined secure us from the dangers of the world nor keep her temptations from us.

Our subject is,

Running Pass Danger Signals. Let us observe:-

- 1-That we shall find the danger signals that we are to watch in a)Industrial movements. b)Social movements. c)Educational scientific movements. d)Missionary movements.
- 2-That watching and praying will enable us to avoid these dangers, a)Poverty. b)Ignorance. c)Disease.
- 3-That watching these danger signals makes our praying, a)Intelligent. b)Regular. c)Fervent enthusiastic. d)Full of faith. e)Unceasing.

Let remember that all along the journey of life that there are dangers, and that God has placed signals so that we may escape them if we observe these signals.

.....Amen.....

Feb. 4 '23

Psalms 100:2

M

Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

From time immemorial, all over the civilized world great business concerns have been trying to get men to serve them with good will and gladness. But it is just recently that these business concerns have found out how to do this. The men have been made members of the firms, and have been made to understand that when they serve that they serve themselves

From their very beginning as citizens in the Kingdom of God men are made to understand that they are coworkers with God, and that they are heirs to all that the Kingdom represents. When they serve in the it should be with gladness, for they are working in their own interest.

Let us observe then:-

- 1-That we should serve the Lord with gladness because we have been made members of the firm of which our Lord is the head.
- 2-That we should serve the Lord with gladness because the One we serve is most worthy.
- 3-That we should serve the Lord with gladness because the Lord himself serves with us.
- 4-That we should serve the Lord with gladness because we know the results of our service are good and profitable and permanent.
- 5-That we should serve the Lord with gladness because our reward is great and certain. We shall have glory and honor and finally be like him.

May it be the delight of our lives to serve the Lord. Let us seek wisdom from ^{him} that we may be able always to serve him acceptably.

.....Amen.....

Feb. 18-'23 Mark 4: 23, Part 24 12

If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. Take heed what ye hear. And unto you that hear shall more be given.

There are times when the best of us need to be aroused to a sense of our duty to use the faculties that have been given to us. But not every one can do this. Not every one has the power, the influence, necessary to have in order to make the right impression. But when the world's greatest Teacher calls attention to the value and importance of hearing we can ill afford to ignore the call. For when he summons us to hear we may ^{be} well assured that he has something to say to us that we need to hear. And something that we can hear from no other source. But in order to hear God when he calls we must be trained to recognize his call. We must know by what means he calls. And this the Holy Spirit engages to do. As each one who prepares his radio to receive messages

Mark 4:23, Pt 24

is expecting to receive them. So if we would receive messages from God, our radio, the heart and mind must be prepared and put in tune with the Infinite.

Let us learn from our list:-

- 1st That God is continuously speaking, broadcasting his messages. And he calls to men to hear them.
- 2nd That if we would use the faculty of hearing as God has intended we shall not pick up every thing that comes along.
- 3rd That we enrich the treasury of the soul by receiving God's messages and giving the world the benefit of them.

Let us from this on, according to our privilege, have ears and hear the wonderful message that God is broadcasting for us.

— Amen —

Feb. 11-'23 John 1:38,39 pr

Then Jesus turned, and saw them following him, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Master, where dwillest thou? He saith unto them Come and see.

A real earnest student, disciple is never satisfied with the general instruction that is given to the class in general. He desires more attention for himself as an individual; he has problems that are peculiar to him. They are not understood even by his most intimate fellow students. So he seeks from his teacher the privilege of meeting him in his office or study.

And as there has always been a desire on the part of students to appropriate the entire time and attention of their teacher. So man has always desired to localize God. Let us see what he has hoped to gain by thus localizing God. We observe:—

John 1:38,39

1st That ^{the} Value of localizing Jesus is seen in that it brings him nearer to us.

2nd That the Value of localizing Jesus is seen in that it enables us to know him better.

3rd That the Value of localizing Jesus is seen in that we can learn more easily from him.

As did those disciples seek to find the dwelling place of our Lord in Galilee by day; May we do even the same. So that we may feel his nearness, know him better and learn his will more perfectly.

— Amen —

Feb. 25 '23

John 15:14

V

Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I command you.

We sustain three important relations to our Lord, that of student learner, that of subject servant, and that of friend. The one that most men covet most is this last relationship. It carries with it certain great outstanding important facts. And we never reach the place with our Lord, nor with any one else, for that matter, where we can know and serve him best, until we become his friends.

To become friends of Jesus, we observe:-

- 1-That we must listen to the testimony of those who are already his friends.
- 2-That we must recognize and read his Message to a sinful world.
- 3-That we must associate with his people and become acquainted with what he has done and is doing in the world for the salvation of men.
- 4-That we must become acquainted with his likes and dislikes-his Will.
- 5-That we must do whatever he commands us to do: deny ourselves, make sacrifices, and take up our cross and follow after him.

Let us seek by every means possible to know the value of this blessed friendship with Jesus. May the Spirit of God teach us how to become friends of Jesus.

.....Amen.....

Feb. 25 '23

PS. 121:F.C.5

M

The Lord is they keeper:

The peevishness, undue anxiety, and carnal ambition of so many who compose the christian Church, bring us to the conclusion that ^{the} truth of our text needs to be emphasized to day, possibly, as never before. For a serious prayerful consideration of this truth will settle many questions that perplex and give us untold worry.

Let us see how the Lord keeps us. We observe that he keeps us:

1-By Redeeming us.

2-By Providing for us.

3-By Planning for us.

4-By Teaching us.

5-By Exalting us.

Let us go forth in the strength of this great truth and teach the world how to be at ease and to live in a state of rest and contentment.

.....Amen.....

Mar. 4 '23

Acts 19:2

M

He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye beleived? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

That there is a mystery connected with the God head, there can be no doubt; and this mystery is beyond the comprehension of poor finite creatures like ourselves. But any beleif, faith that we may have that does not include the Father Son and Holy Spirit, the entire Trinity is void of saving power.

We must have this allinclusive beleif, faith if we would understand the will of God and serve him acceptably.

The Apostle Paul saw very clearly that persons with a religious beleif, faith which fails to recognize the Holy Spirit and his work were not fit to be brought into the membership of the christian Church.

And he felt very keenly the obligation upon him to help such persons into a full faith that would make them intelligent in worship and efficient in service.

The Reception Of The Holy Spirit.

Let us observe:-

- 1-That the reception of the Holy Spirit is essential to a proper knowledge of God, his Word, and Will.
- 2-That the reception of the Holy Spirit is essential to our receiving God's grace, favor.
- 3-That the reception of the Holy Spirit is essential to our having proper knowledge of our brethren and the work that we must do together.

If any of us have been so unfortunate as to have failed to give proper recognition to the Holy Spirit, that from now on may we give him the place in our life that is due him.

.....Amen.....

Mar. 11 '23

Eph. 5:19

M

Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.

The meeting and intermingling, and communing of God's people with one another, as a rule, is not as profitable, helpful as it should be.

Of course God's people, while in this world, as other people are interested in many things. But God's people should, first of all and most of all, be interested in the Kingdom of God, and the things that pertain to the Kingdom of God.

The real life and heart of any people, kingdom, nation are found not in its scientific expressions; not in its laws; not in its philosophy; not in its banks, and commercial exchanges: but in its poetry, music and songs and hymns.

If you wish to know the character of a man's patriotism and his loyalty, read his poetry and listen to his songs and hymns.

Let us learn from our text:-

- 1-That God's people should seek to comfort, encourage and cheer one another when they meet.
- 2-That God's people should seek to inform, instruct and inspire one another when they meet.
- 3-That God's people should seek to bring peace and calm and rest of heart and mind to one another when they meet.

Let us all seek to be real patriotic loyal citizens in the Kingdom of God. And may we seek also to make all with whom we come in contact good citizens in the Kingdom of God. Let us learn from the teaching of our text how, helpfully to meet and speak to our fellow citizens in the Kingdom of God.

.....Amen.....

Mar. 18 '23

I John 2:15

V

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

The world has many ways in which she manifests her life. And there are certain ways that are positively opposed to God and righteousness. Those are the phases of the world's life that we are commanded not to love.

Without a knowledge of the facts just stated it will be difficult, if not impossible for us, to understand some of the ways, that we are exhorted, in the Word of God, to use our love. For in one place, as in our text we are commanded not to love the world, and in another place we are commanded to love our enemies and those who spitefully use us.

Some of us may be well advanced in christian life and experience; it may be that we possess many virtues, and feel quite free to use them as we please. And so we need to be reminded that, every good and perfect gift comes from God.

God bestows his gifts upon us for a specific purpose, that we may be qualified to render him acceptable service. So all of our virtues are to be used according to his rule and law. - our subject is,

Love Limited. We observe:-

- 1-That we are commanded to love God with all the Heart, Soul and Mind. Thus we become acquainted with God and his will.
- 2-That our love increases or decreases according to the way that we use it. Hence it must be used upon that which will cause it to increase.
- 3-That we can be of greatest service to our fellow-men only when we limit the use of our love.
- 4-That we can make preparation for a larger and better life only as we limit the use of our love.

May we be always able to say, we love God because he first loved us.

.....Amen.....

Mar. 18 '23

⁵
Matt. F.C. 14, 16

M

Ye are the light of the world. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

As in the natural world so in the spiritual world. God made one light to illuminate this old world when time began, and it is continuing to serve. He ordained his people to be the light of the world from a moral and spiritual viewpoint; and he has not seen fit to make any change. The Question that we shall discuss at this time is,

What Has The World A Right To Expect Of The Church?
Let us observe:-

- 1- That the world has the right to expect the Church to keep herself ready and prepared to serve the various moral, social and spiritual needs of the world.
- 2- That the world has a right to expect the Church to be at the work of illuminating the world at all times.
- to
- 3² That the world has a right expect the Church to work in such a way as will help them to glorify God.

May we be always conscious of the great and important fact that we are the light of the world. Let us ask God to keep us in order so that we shall shine away the darkness out of this old world.

.....Amen.....

Mar. 25 '23

Rom. 1:16

V

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

The Apostle Paul was one of the best educated, most cultured, and refined men of his day. He was familiar with many theories and philosophies. And now he is addressing the Romans, a people who excelled in the knowledge of law and military craft: he was speaking to them about two of the greatest peoples of the world; the Jews were distinguished for their great piety and for their superior knowledge of the true God, and the Greeks were noted for their literature and philosophy; he was speaking about them in relation to the Gospel of Christ. From a human view point it seems almost strange that he should have been discussing a subject that for all three of these peoples, for the Greeks, Romans, and Jews was so simple, so tame. Indeed to them the subject that he was discussing was foolishness and a stumbling block. It seems that of all times this would have been the time for the great scholarly Apostle to have displayed his knowledge of the theories and philosophies that were familiar to these peoples. But instead he begins to tell them about the Gospel and its power to save. Let us observe three reasons why Paul might have been ashamed of the Gospel; and three reasons why he was not ashamed of the Gospel:-

- 1-Because its Subject had been tried, sentenced, and executed as a malfactor. He had been despised and rejected of men.
- 2-Because he had once opposed and preached against the Gospel of Christ.
- 3-Because it was a simple cult and been espoused by the most ordinary people: fishermen, publicans and harlots had accepted it. Not many great and wise had accepted it.
- 1-He had seen its mighty influence upon the world.
- 2-He had seen its mighty influence upon men, women and children.
- 3-He had felt its power in his own life.

Let us magnify the Gospel of Christ for the wonderful things that it has wrought in this old world.

-----Amen-----

Mar. 25 '23

I Cor. 15:58

M

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

We do not have to search to see that this text is dealing with the great and important subject, Work, Labor.

No phase of human history attracts more attention and is more interesting than that which tells the story of our industrial development and progress.

There was a time in industrialism when the individual man or woman was the greatest factor and was to be most considered. But now the man or woman is required to retain just a small part of his or her individuality, in operating the machinery that does the work in our great industrial plants.

So in the industrialism of to day you do not find whole men and whole women any more. They have been reduced to halves, quarters, sixteenths, and thirtyseconds. And some to even less than these.

This situation has effected man in his entire life; educational, social, moral, and religious. As in industrial life, so in these other phases of life, men are satisfied if they are well up in one or two attainments. And they soon grow tired and weary when they are required to master the entire situation, to do the whole job.

But we must remember, that the work of the Lord like himself, is unchanging and unchangable; and that the individual laborer and his work shall never be lost in the whirl and bustle of the group life of the Church. Each individual must stand or fall for himself, and give an account of his stewardship as an individual.

The work of the Lord is an abundant work and of great variety; it is hard and difficult. So there are many things to make us unsettled and movable. We are effected by small results, lack of human sympathy, and by the allurements and attractions of the world.

So if we would be stable, unmovable and effectual in the work of the Lord we must:-

I Cor. 15:58

1-Understand the nature of the work. We must understand that it is a)A comprehensive work, it is for all man kind, and for all of man. b)A revolutionizing, reforming, and transforming work. c)An inspiring, edifying and constructive work. d)A comforting, quieting and consoling work.

2-Be interested in and love the work. So that we shall want a)To see it grow in magnitude, efficiency, and helpfulness. b)To be engaged in it ourselves and have others engage in it also.

3-Make preparation for the work by:-
1st Study 2nd Prayer and praise 3rd Practice.

If belong to the kingdom of God, let us be interested in the program that our God would have carried out. Let us remember that it is work hard work all the way every day. Our strength and ability must come from God, we should not fail to ask him to supply our need.

.....Amen.....

Mar. 27-'23 John. 14:15 S. M.

If ye love me keep my
Commandments.

There may be many ways in
which we may show our love for
~~our~~ fellow-men, and ^{be} perfectly satis-
factory. But when our Lord is con-
cerned, we must know his law
and his will, so that when he
gives ~~us~~ Command we
shall understand and obey
him and thus show our
genuine love. Let learn:

1st That if we love the Lord Jesus we
have him teach us his will
and his law.

2nd That if we love the Lord Jesus we
will commune with him.

3rd That if we love the Lord Jesus we
will seek to understand him.

4th That if we love the Lord Jesus we will
trust him.

5th That if we love the Lord Jesus we
obey him.

— Amen —

Apr. 1 '23

John 11:25

M

Jesus said unto her (Martha) I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

There are many great questions connected with life and death, that when divorced from Jesus are dark and mysterious. The resurrection is such a question.

The ancients could not by philosophy, science, nor theology solve the mysteries connected with the resurrection.

Pious Martha who had sat at the feet of the religious teachers of her people, the Jews, had no comprehensive, intelligent idea of the resurrection. Nor can we have the right idea concerning this important question until we learn the lesson that Jesus teaches us in the words of our text.

The fact that Jesus is the resurrection and the life clears up all mystery, and solves all problems connected with this question.

Let us consider The Importance

Of The Resurrection. We observe:-

- 1-That the heavenly home is of value to us only as we share the benefits of the resurrection.
- 2-That our religious life here is worth while only upon the ground that we share the benefits of the resurrection.
- 3-That Jesus loses his value as savior to us if we do not share the benefits of the resurrection.

Let us rejoice in the hope, courage and satisfaction that come to the believer in the resurrection. May the prayerful consideration that we have given to this great subject quiet our fears and give us calm and rest.

.....Amen.....

Apr. 8 '23

Matt. 5:11,12

M

Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

The experiences that come to us in this life, all have in them the element of pain and the element of pleasure, of sadness and gladness.

And the element that we find in our experiences depends upon the state of mind in which we are, the preparation that we have made for the experiences of life, and the rule we follow in meeting them.

If we are pessimistic, faithless and suspicious every experience will be fraught with cloud, gloom, sadness and pain.

But if on the other hand we are optimistic and we live in an atmosphere of faith and hope, we hear music, and see beauties and charms; while others hear noise, tumult and confusion, and see disorder and chaos. Illustrations: Glue & Gelatine made from the same substance. Char Coal & Diamond come from the same material.

Let us observe:-

- 1-That God has many regions of joy, that have never been explored by most of us. Ill. The wind and water feared and the wind and water used.
- 2-That to know the history of our spiritual ancestors will will help us to get joy out of our experiences.
- 3-That to know the relation of our experiences to the future will help us to get joy out of them.

Let us, as disciples of the Lord Jesus, children of God, look for the joy that may be found in every experience that comes to us.

.....Amen.....

Apr. 15 '23

I Sam. 1:8

V

Then said Elkanah, her husband, to her, Hannah, why weepest thou? and why eatest thou not? and why is thy heart grieved? am I not better to thee than ten sons?

In our christian civilization the home is the most important institution.

In it we receive first impressions and get basic ideas.

So in the home each one should know the place that he is to occupy and the duty that he is expected to perform.

However great and important one may be as an individual he can only fill his own place in the make up of the home.

The first principles of Economy, Industry, Education, Religion and Recreation should be learned in the home.

Let us observe:-

- 1-That the real usefulness of the home depends upon every one in its make-up finding his place and doing his whole duty.
- 2-That the efficiency of the home depends upon every one in its make-up finding his place and doing his whole duty.
- 3-That the permanency of the home depends upon every one in its make-up finding his place and doing his whole duty.

Let us always value our place in the home and the particular duty that we are expected to perform in the home.

.....Amen.....

Apr. 22 '23

Rom. 12:21

M

Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

For some people, this is a command easy to obey; for they always know evil when they see it, nor is it difficult for them to understand good when it appears. But these are a very small minority. Too often most people mistake evil for good and vice versa. For there is not much if any thing in this world that is evil per se. For all practical purposes, evil and good are relative terms; that which is evil today may be good tomorrow, and that which is evil for one man may be good for another.

Most honest upright people pride themselves and boast of being able to carry out the first part of this command. That is they do not allow themselves to be overcome of evil. But the second part of this command is not so easy to carry out. For these questions are constantly arising, what good shall we select to overcome some particular evil? What method shall we employ in using a good force against an evil force so that our using shall be effectual?

Let us observe that we must overcome evil:-

1-By being individually fit,

a)Physically. b)Mentally. c)Morally. d)Intellectually. e)Spiritually. f)Socially.

2-By forming right alliances. We should form alliance with,

a)The strong. b)The wise and prudent. c)Those who have vision. d)Those who have faith, in God and man.

3-By constant application, hard work. In, a)Prayer.

b)Study. c)Social service.

May we always keep in mind, that we are not asked to overcome alone, but we are to overcome in cooperation with him who has overcome the world.

.....Amen.....

May 6 '23

Eph. 5:L.C.18

M

Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit.

For most men, life, ordinary life is humdrum and monotonous. We are in constant need of excitement, inspiration and encouragement.

Tasks and duties, that at the first were a pleasure and a delight grow irksome and tiresome as time passes.

In most every walk of life we find work, very important work undone; simply because those to whom it was entrusted have run out of enthusiasm, zeal, inspiration.

And worse still, we often find those who have run out of these essential qualities seem to be ignorant of how and where to secure them. Hence we find them resorting to all kinds of outlandish, illegitimate things for stimulation hoping to be inspired for service.

For there are many things in which we may find a certain kind of stimulation and tonic, such as 1-The right kind of environment. 2-The right kind company. 3-The right kind of dress. 4-Certain kinds of food. 5-Money. 6-A new occupation.

But the stimulant that the man who is in Christ Jesus needs to keep him alive and fit for service must come from the Holy Spirit.

When he is allowed to operate there are no drudgery and monotony in the service of the Lord.

Let us observe:-

1-That our qualification for and efficiency in christian service depends upon our being filled with the Holy Spirit. For a)He alone knows what is to be done and how it is to be done. b)He is the one whom God has appointed to be the inspiration of his people. c)He intercedes with the Father for us.

2-How to be filled with the Holy Spirit. By a)Creating the right kind of atmosphere, in prayer song and service. b)Recognizing him as our guide, teacher. c)Inviting him into our life.

3-How the Holy Spirit effects those whom he fills. He makes them a)Humble. b)Wise. c)Obedient.

.....Amen.....

May 9 '23

Mark 4:35-41

Emmanuel Church

The Church is like a ship, indeed some times she is called the ship of Zion. Her safety depends upon conditions within and conditions without.

In order for a ship to be safe, it must be properly constructed, and have in her makeup the right kind of material. So with the Church. If a ship is to be safe from within:

- I-She must be properly officered. The Officers of the ship know a)The purpose of the ship, whether it was intended for freight, passenger or excursion service. b)The course over which she is to sail and the port for which she is destined. c)They must always carry the Compass, and use it, not to tamper and tinker with it.
- II-She must always have propelling power. Her engines must be kept in proper condition, and her sails must be so trimmed as to catch the breeze.
- III-She must always have on board life preservers and anchors.

With this equipment the ship is safe from within. Now she must also be made safe from without.

If the ship is to be safe from without:

- I-The channel through which she is to pass must be kept open.
- II-She must be very careful about what she tows.
- III-She must always recognize her relation to other ships upon the seas.
- IV-She must always keep in evidence the right sign or flag.

Let us all rejoice in the fact that we are on board the old ship of Zion and that we are bound for the eternal haven of rest that remains to the people of God.

May we always endeavor to do those things that will keep the old ship safe and sound, and fit to serve in the deep waters of God's love and truth.

.....Amen.....

May 13 '23

II Tim. 1:5

M

When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

This is Sunday, the resurrection day, and I suppose no better day could have been selected as a day when the mothers of the land both dead and living should be specially remembered.

The ^{Church} and the Pastor are constantly called upon to observe certain days and to preach sermons on special subjects. And this we are always glad to do, especially when the subject that we are to treat bears upon the gospel and the work of the Church.

There is no subject that is more vitally connected with the work of the Church than the subject **MOTHER**.

It is often said, the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world. And it is just as appropriate to say, the hand that rocks the cradle, from a temporal viewpoint rules the Church.

And it is well for us to have a day in this busy age when we shall in an especial way remember the mothers of the land. It is easier to do things when every body about us is helping us to do them.

And so to day, every one of us has some particular reason for which to remember his mother ~~today~~. To day the atmosphere will be filled with pleasant thoughts of mother and home.

Let us observe:-

- 1-Some of the things for which we should remember mother. a) For her love and sympathy and kindness. b) For her honesty uprightness and truthfulness. c) For the position, in civil and religious life, that she held, or holds.
- 2-That remembering her gives us inspiration and courage for the duties that devolve upon us.
- 3-That remembering her keeps us from doing ignoble things.
- 4-That remembering her keeps home in our minds and makes us love it.
- 5-Some of the things that we should do on this day of remembrance. a) If mother is living and is located so that we can we should visit her. b) we should write her and send her a token. c) If she is dead we should do some good thing to day that we know she would do if she were living.

.....Amen.....

May 20 '23

II Peter 3:18

M

Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To whom be glory both now and for ever.

When we consider the provision that God has made for his people, he has a right to expect and demand certain things from them.

If the means that God has provided be used according to his plan and purpose, God's people will grow in grace, and beauty.

It is inconsistent for the people of God to grow unlike him. And if they grow like him they will have grace and beauty. Not only so, they will grow in favor with God and have power and influence with the Throne.

God's people have been provided with the means for knowing more and more about Jesus Christ our Lord. The more we know about Jesus the better we will understand the will of God.

Let us observe:-

- 1-That it is to our very great advantage to grow in grace.
- 2-That we grow in grace only in so far as we make proper use of the means that God has appointed.
- 3-That we grow in grace when we have the proper environment.
- 4-That our knowledge of Jesus grows as we commune with him.
- 5-That our knowledge of Jesus grows as ^{we} labor with him.

May all of us covet and seek earnest^{ly} the grace of God. And having obtained his beauty and his favor may we use the same for the advancement of his kingdom.

.....Amen.....

June 3 '23

Gal. 5:L.C.13

V

But by love serve one another.

Most people seem to take more pleasure in singing. Brighten the corner where you are than they do in brightening the corner where they are.

For most people there seems to be^a charm about the service that is rendered to those who are far away.

As for all other service, so for the service of love there must be intelligent preparation.

The field in which we would work in serving one another must be studied thoroughly if we would be helpful in our service of love.

Let us observe what a service of love is. It is

1-Unselfish.

2-Constant.

3-Courageous.

4-Costly.

5-Cosmopolitan.

6-Benificial.

May each of us endeavor by every means possible to be ready to render a service of love to all who may be in need.

.....Amen.....

Ino. 1: 38, 39

21

But we should not lose sight of those virtues that are regarded more common that were constantly manifesting themselves in his ^{life} and that made him so attractive in his personality. Let us learn:

- 1st That Jesus turned
- 2nd That Jesus saw men who had been hitherto occupied in some other way and with some one else following him.
- 3rd That Jesus interested himself in these men and inquired as to their desires.
- 4th That Jesus responded to the answer of these men and invited them to accompany him to a place where they could get more of his spirit and instruction.
- 5th That Jesus' invitation was just the kind that these men were glad to accept.
- 6th That Jesus was willing to give these men a long audience - 3 or 4 hours. And possibly gave them supper.

May all of us as members of the Church of Christ learn to be courteous and considerate of the wishes and needs of our fellow men.

Amen

June 3-'23

Jan. 14-'17 Jno. 1: 38, 39

pe

The title Christian is so comprehensive and so all inclusive of every noble trait and quality that we naturally take it for granted that any one who says he is a Christian will be Christ like. That he will be kind, loving, sympathetic, courteous. In a word that he will have good manners and will be at least polite in dealing with his fellow men. But very often we are greatly disappointed. There is no vice that constitutes a greater lack in the Church organization or in the individual member than that which is caused by the absence of these qualities. We are accustomed to make much of the holiness and righteousness that were constantly manifested in the life of Jesus and his early disciples, and this ^{is} right and well.

June 4 '23

Phil. 1:9,10,11.

Cong. Ch.

And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgement; that ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the praise and glory of God.

This scripture gives us a panoramic view of the Pastor's Interest In His People.

The Pastor's interest in his people is that of a PARENT. It is that of a SHEPARD. It is that of a KING. Let us observe that in this capacity the Pastor:-

1-Prays for his people.

2-Plans for his people.

3-Longs to see them grow in love, knowledge and judgement.

4-Wishes to have them approve things that are excellent.

5-Wishes them to be sincere.

6-Wishes them to be free from offence.

7-Longs to see them fruitful in righteousness.

8-Wishes all of this for the glory of God.

We shall do well always to recognize the character of the Pastor's office. We can not do too much to make the Pastor efficient in his office. So let us use every means at our disposal to help him to be to us all that God would have him be.

.....Amen.....

June 17 '23

Gal. 6:17

V

From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.

In this world conditions are so complicated and uncertain, that ^{we} are in constant need of a passport, so that we may have the freedom necessary to growth and progress. This is true in every walk of life, but it is especially true in our religious life. We must have some sign, some mark that gives us authority to labor in the vineyard of the Lord.

When a person has been suffering under the torture of some dread malady, and has been treated and pronounced by an expert cured, he is given a certificate, which is the mark by which all who are concerned may know that he has been cured. The certificate puts him beyond question by ordinary people. He has the mark of the expert, the one who has the authority to pronounce him cured and well.

When the train conductor takes your ticket he puts a mark on you so that he will not have to trouble you again. And so the mark of Jesus upon us puts us beyond the necessity of men troubling us and worrying about us.

Let us observe some of the ways in which we often trouble those who have the mark of the Lord Jesus upon them:-

- 1-We often trouble ^{men} about the creed that they have adopted.
- 2-We often trouble men who have the mark of the Lord Jesus upon them about the kind of life they are endeavoring to live.
- 3-We often trouble men who have the mark of the Lord Jesus upon them about the kind of work that they are endeavoring to do.

Let us rejoice in the fact that we have the mark of the Lord Jesus upon us, and that we are therefore free to labor in his vineyard without being molested by any body. May we seek earnestly to do our duty.

.....Amen.....

June 17 '23

Psalms 91:1,16

M

He that dwelleth in the secret in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

The secret place of the most High is ^{and} a lonely, uncomfortable for many, even who wish long life. Hence they elect to dwell some where else, and to seek long life in some way other than God's way.

How to have a long physical life is the great concern of most every one.

Let us observe that in order to have a long life we must:-

1-Know God.

2-Live with God.

3-Live for God.

^{we}
May_A seek earnestly to know God. Let us take the Holy Spirit to be our teacher.

.....Amen.....

June 24 '23

PS. 80:3

V

Turn us again, O God, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.

It is a terrible thing to incur the disfavor of God.

We may have pleasure and enjoyment without God's favor. But the enjoyment and pleasure will not, can not last. And often they end by plunging us into the abyss of regret and remorse.

Notwithstanding the boasted illumination of this old world, we know that with too many men and in too many places darkness, yea gross darkness prevails.

And we know whatever men may have in the form of light, if God be absent, it does not render satisfactory service; it does not meet the needs of this old world.

The human heart, when in its normal state has always craved the favor of God. Hence men have erected shrines, altars, temples and cathedrals, where they might meet and by petitions, prayer and chants secure and maintain divine favor.

The ancients were so earnest about this that even though they had many gods they sought to please them all. They felt that the favor of their gods was essential to good weather, good crops, good health, victory in battle, and indeed to every earthly fortune, and the joys of eternal life.

But for many of us the faces of men shine and are often very bright: and we look to them and trust them for our salvation. And in many particulars we are not disappointed. But herein is our great danger. For if we are not careful we will look to man for our eternal salvation.

We will depend upon his inventions and discoveries, his institutions and organizations, his rites and rules, his ceremonies and creeds.

To ancient Israel, God's disfavor meant destruction, to be eternally lost. But God's favor meant salvation, eternal life.

There are many ways that lead us away from God and God uses many ways to turn us back to him.

Man's great need is a personal knowledge of touch with God.

Subj. The Turns That Some Of Us Need
To Make. The Turn That We All
Should Make.

Let us observe:-

- 1-That we need to turn from ourselves. From
a)Our weakness. b)Doubts and Fears. c)Our Limita-
tions.
- 2-That we need to turn to, a)Our Parents. b)Our Tea-
chers. c)Our Benefactors.
- 3-That we need to turn to many of the old vocations,
that help us to live upright honest lives.
- 4-That we need to turn to our churches.
- 5-That we need to turn to our God.

Let keep in mind that we have the Holy Spirit who
will teach us how to turn, and to whom to turn.

.....Amen.....

July 8 '23

Acts 16:4, 5

M

And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the Apostles and Elders which were at Jerusalem. And so were the Churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.

There is no organization with which man has to do that is so intricate and delicate in its make up as the christian Church; her obligations are the most important and the most difficult. For in performing her duty she must keep in constant touch with God and man; she has interests in Heaven and interests on earth. With these intricate and delicate obligations upon her and these sacred duties to perform, it is easy to see how necessary it is to have some unvarying laws by which to be governed, some well defined rules to follow.

Hence from time to time God has seen fit to hand down through certain chosen men definite decrees that the entire Church must recognize and follow if she would increase in numbers, knowledge and in favor with God and man.

The Church is concerned with two great aims, to please God and to serve man. She must, therefore be more and more established in the faith; she must have a better and better understanding of the decrees, doctrines delivered to her.

The Church In The Making. Let us observe:-

- 1-That the purpose of the Church in the making must be thoroughly understood and declared.
- 2-That only material that has been thoroughly prepared should be allowed to enter into the Church that is in the making.
- 3-That the work of the Church in the making should be by consecrated workmen.
- 4-That the work of the Church in the making is a constant work.
- 5-That the work of the Church in the making must be under the direction of the Holy Spirit.

Let us rejoice in the work of the Church in the making. Amen

July 15 '23

Jno. 3:7

M

Marvel not that I said unto thee, ye must be born again.

There is a larger and better life, a larger and better world awaiting every one who reaches his natal day, his birth day.

Up to the natal day our world was narrow, dark and circumscribed.

Until that day we could not enter into the life and experience and activity of this world.

Birth is always the process by which we see new worlds and enter into their fullness.

Our Lord used no sarcasm when he asked Nicodemus, if he was a master in Israel and knew not that it was necessary to be born again in order to enter or even see the Kingdom of Heaven. For it is reasonable to believe that he had accepted this principle many times in the process of his intellectual and professional training.

Nicodemus was a Jew. But he had already seen and entered into the Roman and Greek kingdoms. And in order to enter these kingdoms he had to be intellectually begotten by Roman statemen and Greek philosophers. He had to be born into their language, customs and manners.

And so no one can enter or see the Kingdom of Heaven until he is begotten by the Holy Ghost, who is the exponent of the Kingdom of Heaven. To him the Trinity has assigned the task of making known the language, manners and customs of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Let us observe from our text:-

- 1-That the new birth for those who would enter into the Kingdom of Heaven is a reasonable, natural requirement.
- 2-That the Church must be in constant cooperation with God in order to bring men who would enter into the Kingdom of Heaven to their natal day.
- 3-That there is a period in the life of those who would enter into the Kingdom of Heaven when they are and must be passive, dependent.

Let us all rejoice in the fact that God has made it possible for us to be born into the Kingdom of Heaven.

.....Amen.....

July 22 '23

Matt. 7:5

M

Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shall thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

In a world where there are so many wrongs, so many sins, so many irregularities and disorders it is not to be wondered at that a great many of those who are responsible for these conditions grow tired of and disgusted with the sins of others, and would if they could, correct them. The bugular thinks the gambler a bad man who should be apprehended and put away. The man who breaks up families and destroys the virtue of youth would teach the lyncher and oppressor mercy justice and kindness.

But the work of reforming is a very delicate work, and those who engage in it must be men of clear vision. They must be able to distinguish between what seems to be and what really is.

The eye is one of the most delicate organs that we have. As a rule we can not correct its disorders ourselves, but we must resort to some one who has made a study of the eye and is an expert.

Let us learn from our text:-

- 1-That only the trianed eye can see things as they really are; and therefore only those with clear trained eyes are qualified to help to correct the wrongs in this old world.
- 2-That only the eye that is kept in proper condition by the expert can see things in their true light. And only those with such eyes are qualified to help remedy the ills of life.
- 3-That it is costly to keep ones physical, mental and spiritual eyes in that perfect state that qualifies one to help remedy ills and evils of his fellowmen.

May we all be anxious about the sin and evil that are in this old world. But at the same time may we be always conscious of the fact that it is impossible for us to be helpful until we see with God's eyes.

.....Amen.....

July 22 '23

Matt. 10:L.C.31

Alden

Ye are of more value than many

sparrows.

In this world we have two values, our external value by which men estimate us and our internal value by which God estimates us.

In one case our value depends upon the number of professors at whose feet we have sat, the number of books we have read, the costly apparel we wear, the luxurious food we eat and the size of our bank account.

In the other case our value depends upon the amount of time that we have spent at the feet of the great Teacher, the amount of time that we have spent in reading the Book of books, our wearing the robe of his righteousness, our eating the bread of life and our having laid up treasures above where moths do not corrupt and where thieves do not break through and steal.

Forgetting all other values and estimates that may be placed upon us we shall consider at this time,

Man's Value To God

Let us observe that man's value to God is seen:-

- 1-In the way in which he has made him-he has made him in his own image.
- 2-In the provision that he has made for him. a)Material. b)Intellectual. c)Spiritual.
- 3-In the task that he has assigned him. a)To cultivate the soil. b)To utilize the forest. d)To explore and invent. e)To write, paint and carve.
- 4-In the destiny that he has planned for him. a)To appear before God and to be judged. b)To have eternal life. c)To dwell in heaven with God.

Let us rejoice in that God has so valued us as to make us his heirs and joint heirs with his Son Jesus. May we always be coworkers with him.

.....Amen.....

July 22 '23

Col. 3:23

V

And whatsoever you do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto men.

When some particular person who knows music perfectly, but is unable to express it to an advantage no one feels any serious loss. For there are so many who know music and can express it advantageously.

But to say, a man has religion, but can not express it is an incongruity. For the genuineness of a man's religion depends upon its proper expression.

How Pleasingly and Helpfully To Express Our Religion

Let us observe:-

- 1-That we must the purpose of our religion; we must know just what it is suppose to do.
- 2-That we must have the proper facilities with which to express our religion.
- 3-That we must have the proper atmosphere in which to express our religion.

Let us remember that our God who gives us religion also gives us the ability to express it properly.

So it is our duty to look to him and to depend upon him for guidance.

.....Amen.....

July 24 '21. Ps. 86:1. Matt. 5:3. Heb. 4:16. M

Bow down thine ear O Lord, hear me: for I am poor and needy.

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

God is the source of all wisdom knowledge and truth; and the nearer we get to him the more sensitive we become about any defects or imperfections that we may have. As we approach him our poverty, ignorance and sin are much in evidence. When we get into vital touch with God all these defects and imperfections flee away. But with these hindrances clinging to us it is impossible for us to approach close enough to God to be cleansed and purified. So like the Psalmist we are compelled to appeal to God to come to us. And the history of his dealing with man shows the various ways in which he has bowed down his ear and heard his complaints and granted his petitions. His answer to those who have approached him in humility and meekness has always included a revelation of their inheritance; theirs is the kingdom of heaven. It is this answer that takes away fear and makes us bold to ask for the things

that we need.

There are three stages through which man passes in his approach to God.

1-Is the stage in which, through the Holy Spirit, he gets acquainted with God, and his position; and gets acquainted with himself and his real condition.

2-Is the stage in which man gets acquainted with ^{God's} wealth and with his own inheritance and how it may be obtained.

3-Is the stage in which the Holy Spirit makes us courageous, bold and determined to obtain our inheritance.

May each of us submit to the teachings of the Holy Spirit, that he may make us see ourselves just as we are, poor helpless and sinful, and in constant need of God's grace.

Let us remember that the kingdom of heaven belongs to those who are humble and meek. Let us also remember that Christ like humility makes us bold.
.....Amen.....

July 29 '23

Rom. 14:16

M

Let not then your good be evil spoken of.

Every virtue that we have is a gift from God and comes to us complete and perfect.

When therefore, we receive our virtues and use them just as we receive them they will make their own way and stand the test.

But when we attempt to improve upon them and to ornament and decorate them we reduce their merit and lessen their value.

In this way our virtues become so unnatural that they are often taken for vices.

Your frankness is taken for uncouth abruptness; your sociability for undue familiarity; your piety for hypocrisy; your kindness for patronizing; your spiritual zeal for carnal ambition and enthusiasm; and your carefulness for cowardice.

So in order to have our goodness properly spoken of we must:-

- 1-Have the proper place in which to exhibit our good.
- 2-Have the proper means with which to exhibit our good.
- 3-Choose the proper time when to exhibit our good.
- 4-Have the proper motive in order properly to exhibit our good.
- 5-Employ the proper rules in order properly to exhibit our good.

Let us always keep in mind the important fact that God who has graciously given to us the virtues that we have will also give us the ability properly to exhibit them.

.....Amen.....

Aug. 5 '23 Isa. 11:6; Hos. 11:1; Matt. 18:2-5 V
Mark 10:15; ICor. 13:11

When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.

The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, and said, verily I say unto you, except you be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.

Verily I say unto you, whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

The childhood days are anxious days for both children and parents.

But manhood days are more serious and carry with them greater obligations and responsibilities.

How to be a hard firm sturdy man and at the same time to be childlike constitutes a problem not easily solved by most of us.

Let us observe that there are qualities of childhood and of manhood that should always be blended; these qualities should be blended:-

1-Gentleness, Faith, Trust, Confidence, Courage and Determination.

2-Humility, Meekness, Obedience and Honor.

3-Individualism, Cooperation, Love for self and Love and Respect for others.

May each of us eliminate the childish and take on the manly under the direction of the Holy Spirit who has come to be our guide and teacher.

.....Amen.....

Aug. 5 '23

I Cor. 3:F.C.9

M

For we are laborers together with God.

Nature is filled with beauty, charm and attractiveness. But the human race has never been satisfied with natural beauty and charm. So very early in the history of the race we began to invent new beauties and new charms.

Man very soon outgrew the simple natural dwelling place. So he has gone from the ancient cave to the modern castle and palace.

When he began his history his best garment consisted of a few simple fig leaves, until to day there is no end to the variety of his wardrobe.

Once pulse and lentils was man's bill of fare and kept him strong vigorous and healthy. But now he cultivates the soil, explores the forest and fathoms the sea in order to secure his supply.

Once the immediate family and the little territory that it occupied was the only kingdom nation and government about which man knew and he was satisfied. The father was his only king, and his brothers and sisters were his only fellow citizens. But as the race grew these simple arrangements soon became tame and unsatisfactory. So family joined with family and nations were formed. The term father as ruler no longer satisfied. And the race began to manufacture and invent new titles for their rulers. They have made Judges, Kings, Mikados, Emperors, Czars and Presidents

And we have so busied ourselves with these artificial titles until we have lost sight of the real and only title with which God in his word has vested us. We are Laborers together with God. So in whatever kind of house we live; whatever kind of clothes we wear; whatever kind of food we eat; whatever kind of government we may have and whatever may be the title that men have given to our rulers, if we would be worth while and worthy of a place in history we must gain our place by labor hard labor.

This world is one immense work shop, with a great variety of tasks to be performed. God has mapped out the work to be done. Each individual has his particular part to do. And when his task is finished he passes on to his reward.

For convenience, each particular task is labeled. So your task may be Social, Educational, Industrial, Political or Religious. For all of these phases of work are included in God's plan, program.

Let us learn from our text:-

- 1-That laborers with God have a perpetual position.
- 2-That they have a task equal to their ability and capacity.
- 3-That they have a comprehensive position.
- 4-That they are sure to succeed in the position that they have.
- 5-That the results are always beneficial.
- 6-That their position is one of dignity and glory.

Let us make much of the fact that we are laborers together with God. May we always rejoice in our privilege.

.....Amen.....

Aug. 12 '23

PS.102:4

M

My heart is smitten, and withered like grass; so that I forget to eat my bread.

The heart is a peculiar organ. It is the place where grief and sorrow and pain are found; and it is the place from which spring our joys, our comforts and our delights.

Troubles contract and wither the heart. But joy makes the heart great and strong.

If we can keep troubles, real and imaginary, out of the heart, the heart diseases that are so prevalent among us will be for ever cured.

There have been periods in the life of each one of us that these words of our text perfectly describe. Our hearts have been smitten and withered, and there have been times when we have forgotten to eat our bread.

Let us learn:-

- 1-The Character of our troubles. They are a)Real.
b)Imaginary. c)Immediate. d)Anticipated.
- 2-Some of the Sources of our troubles. We find our troubles in a)The country in which we live. b)Our associates. c)Politics. d)Religion. e)Food and dress.
- 3-The Effects of our troubles. a)Upon the body. b)Upon the mind. c)Upon the spirit.
- 4-That our troubles are contagious. To those a>About whom we think. b)To whom we write. c)To whom we talk.
- 5-How to overcome troubles. By a)Think properly. b)Speaking properly. c)Acting properly.

May each of us profit by the instruction that we have received from our Lord, as to how to meet and overcome troubles.

.....Amen.....

Oct 7 '23

I Chron. 16:L.C.29

M

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

The christian has just two ways in which, properly to express his religion, his Faith in , Loyalty to, and Love for God.

He must do it through worship and work. And he must do both at the right time and place and in the proper way.

No man can render God acceptable service who fails properly to worship him.

Through worship we obtain zeal, fervor and enthusiasm.

Worship increases our love for God and makes us anxious and ambitious to advance his Kingdom.

God himself instituted this form of activity for his people.

The ancient prophets, priests, and apostles recognized its worth and importance and practiced it. They aimed always to make worship as beautiful and attractive as possible.

Hence they built altars, tabernacles, temples and synagogues, and installed costly instruments and utensils for the service, and introduced elaborate ceremonies.

It is a mistake to think of worship ever being an end in itself. It is a means to an end. It aims to help us more fully to recognize God's worthiness and the significance and greatness of his Kingdom.

Our worship will always determine our conception of God and his cause.

If our worship is rude and grotesque, then our conception of God and his work will always be unworthy of him; and our whole religious and moral system will be distorted and degrading.

But if our worship be elevated and beautiful, then our conception of God and his work will be worthy, and our religious and moral standard will be high lofty and helpful.

And this brings us to our subject:

The Place And Value Of The Beautiful In Worship.

As in other forms of life with which we have to do, so in worship, we must know the laws of beauty so as to be able to recognize and profit by beauty when we see it.

We must know the forms and ceremonies which make worship beautiful.

No form or ceremony that does not make God more real and his will clearer to us is beautiful.

I Cron. 16:L.C.29

The forms and ceremonies that make us adore and praise God with gratitude and thanksgiving; that make us confess our sins and seek to know his will are elements of beauty in our worship.

Let us observe then, some things that we must consider in connection with our worship that beautify it.

- 1-The Place. a)Its location. b)Its appointments. c) Its condition.
- 2-The Persons. a)Their reputation. b)Their deportment. c)Their dress. d) Their generosity.
- 3-The Forms-Ceremonies. a)Ritualistic. b)Evangelistic. c)Sacramental.
- 4-The Mental Condition.
- 5-The Philosophical Condition.
- 6-The Spiritual Condition.

Let each of us under the instruction of the Holy Spirit prayerfully seek to know the practical meaning of worship. And having learned may we be found always using it according to God's plan and purpose. May we remember that we are qualified to work in the service of our God only in so far as we become so through worship. Let us seek always to keep our worship beautiful and attractive.

.....Amen.....

Oct. 7 '23

II Cron. 29:L.C.30

V

And they sang praises with gladness and bowed the head and worshiped.

Singing is the common language of all peoples. In song the peoples of the earth have expressed their griefs and their joys. In song they have celebrated their victories and commemorated their defeats.

Our fathers praised God for saving them from the tortures of the famine, and for blessing them with abundant harvest.

The Praise Life Of Our Fathers was:-

- 1-Sincere.
- 2-Simple.
- 3-Enthusiastic.
- 4-Sustained.
- 5-Manifested every where and at all times.

Let us make more of our praise life. Let us invest more time and energy and money in it. When we are full of joy and are glad, let us sing and praise God; and when we are filled with sorrow and are sad, let us praise him for his unfailing goodness and mercy.

.....Amen.....

Oct. 14 '23

Eccl. 12:9

Dtrt. M

And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, and set in order many proverbs.

My dear brother Bradby, Officers and Members: I wish, first of all, personally and in behalf of the Michigan Ave. Baptist Church of Buffalo, N. Y., to congratulate you upon this occasion, and to assure you that it gives me unusual pleasure to be with you and to assist in celebrating the thirteenth anniversary of the Pastor's stay among you. **B.C.S.**

Thirteen years of church life without a Pastor would be an uneventful period; and thirteen years of ministerial life divorced from the church would be hardly worth celebrating or rehearsing.

The machinery in the Kingdom of God runs smoothly and successfully only when each part is in its proper place and doing its specific duty.

So during the last thirteen years you have succeeded and have many achievements to your credit because this law has been recognized and obeyed.

Deacons, Trustees, Deaconesses, the various officers, committees and clubs of your Church have all found their places and have constantly filled them.

But in all your plans activities and achievements during the past thirteen years, your Pastor, chosen of God and accepted by you as your chief Officer has been most anxious and most responsible.

If your Church is a great Church, and it is a great Church, it is so very largely because you have a great Pastor.

And if you have a great Pastor, and you have, in the main, it is because you have a great Church to make and keep him so.

During the past thirteen years you have had to do work that has been some what pioneer in character. No Baptist Church in Detroit has had to do just the kind of work that you have done. You have had to en-

(2)

Eccl. 12:9

ter new fields and, in the main, with new material rendered a new service. And your present status in in this great and busy city tells how well and faithfully you have served.

The Church that most helpfully serves the people has two programs, one is ideal and is being worked upon constantly by your Pastor and your Officers; the other is real and has a part for the Pastor and every member of the Church.

The ideal program is divine. The real program is that part of the divine program that redeemed humanity has comprehended and is endeavoring to work out.

No Church is apt to recognize these two programs except she have proper leadership. And you find your proper leadership in the man described in our text. He is a Preacher who is preeminently a Teacher:-

- 1-Prepared in a)Wisdom Knowledge and Truth.
- 2-He observes the movements and activities about him.
- 3-He is a man of system and order.
- 4-He is a consecrated man. He has a vision of the work to be done that wins his heart and absorbs his mind.
- 5-He is optimistic because he knows the history of God's work; and knows that it must succeed.
- 6-He is zealous and persevering because he associates with other laborers and observes their efforts and methods.

As you review the successes victories and achievements that have been yours during the past thirteen years, may you be inspired to attempt greater things and to do a better work in the future than you have ever done.

Let the streams of information, of instruction and inspiration that go out from this place be purer and more helpful each day.Amen.....

Oct. 14 '23

Phil. 2:L.C.12
Ps. 96:9

Dtrt. V

Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

The christian has just two ways in which to express his religion, his faith in, loyalty to and love for God.

He must do it through worship and work. And he must do both at the right time and place and in the proper way.

We worship God not, primarily, to have a good time, nor to show our superior goodness. But to show what God is worth to us and to the world.

No man can render God acceptable service who fails properly and regularly to worship him.

If we would put more worship into it our work would be easier and more profitable; and if we would put more consecrated work into it our worship would be more beautiful and helpful

Our thought for this time is:-

Work And Worship. Let us observe:-

- 1-The aim of worship. It is to make us a)Humble.
b)Confess our sins. c)Seek to know God's will.
- 2-The meaning of work. It means a)Obedience. b)Co-operation. c)Sacrifice.
- 3-That all work and worship in the Kingdom of God should be preceded by prayer, meditation and plan.
- 4-That all organized work and worship should conform to a universal standard.
- 5-That all work and worship in the Kingdom of God should have one aim.

Let us remember always that we have just these two mediums through which, properly to express our religion. And let us by every means keep these two mediums up to God's standard. Let us work to make our worship beautiful and inspiring; and let us worship to make our work acceptable and profitable.

.....Amen.....

Oct. 17-'23 Matt. 26:13 Sister M.B.T.

The great woman whose mortal remains lie before us this afternoon had her prototype in another Mary, who nearly 2000 years ago in a little town named Bethany, in Judea, situated about 2 miles South East of Jerusalem. Mary of Bethany very early in life began to know and to love Jesus. And so did our Sister Mary of Oberlin. Mary of Bethany manifested her love in labors and gifts of gratitude, and so did our Sister Mary of Oberlin. For more than a quarter of a century she has been anointing wounded, bleeding suffering humanity with the costly Spikenard of her life. And she poured out the last drop in her last effort, the Anti Lynching Crusade. She obtained the ointment for her great anointings 1- In her home, at her mother's knee 2- In the Sunday S. & Church 3- In the public Schools & College

Oct. 21 '23

Psalm 23:1,2

M

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

God's provision for his children is wonderful, marvelous; so full, so ample and abundant.

God's provision is never stale, never old, but is always fresh, rich and enjoyable.

The heat of summer does not parch and wither; nor does the blast of winter fade and destroy.

When all else has departed, a sense of God's provision makes his children quiet, calm and restful. They can lie down in green pastures, and journey beside the still waters.

Let us observe, that in God's Pasture we find:-

- 1-Abundant life for all who enter.
- 2-Congenial- helpful association.
- 3-Opportunity for growth and progress, new experience, new discoveries.
- 4-Great opportunities for service.
- 5-Peace, pleasure, rest, satisfaction.

May God's spirit so move upon us that we shall no longer be satisfied to remain in the barren places of this old world. But may we follow the Holy Spirit and let him lead us into the green pastures of plenty, peace and power.

.....Amen.....

Oct. '23

Luke 24:50, 51, 52, 53.

M

And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: and were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

The life of God's people has always been marked by great crises.

Abraham called to leave his own country and to go into a strange country and to found a new nation; Moses called to lead his people out of bondage; David summoned to lead God's people to victory; Esther appearing before the King in behalf of her people; John suffering imprisonment and death are all illustrations of how the life of God's people has always been marked by great crises.

At these times, these test times God's people need courage and supernatural strength.

The disciples who had followed the Master through his earthly ministry were called upon over and over again to pass through great crises. They had to learn the meaning of blighted hopes and frustrated plans.

The disciples had seen their Master's teachings ridiculed, and their Master himself mocked, denounced and excuted. But they had lived to see him, at the appointed time, overcome the powers of death and the grave and to come forth inspiring new hope in all who follow him.

But now just at the time when the disciples were getting back their old courage, hope and expectation they are called upon to pass through another crisis, which was calculated utterly to destroy their faith and to disqualify them for service. But they are not left to pass through this crisis alone, unprepared, unaided.

The Master knowing that he would soon be taken away from his disciples speaks words of hope which brought encouragement and joy to their hearts. And in the ecstasy of his matchless words the disciples follow him until they reach Bethany. Then he lifts up his hands and blesses them.

Our subject is:

The Master's Final Blessing And Its Meaning To The Disciples.

(2)

Luke 24:50, 51, 52, 53.

Let us observe:-

- 1-That the Master's blessing meant, for the disciples a larger vision of the Kingdom and the work to be done.
- 2-That the Master's blessing meant for the disciples a better understanding of things that had been mysterious and misunderstood.
- 3-That the Master's blessing meant for the disciples a new consecration and devotion to the Lord and his cause.
- 4-That the Master's blessing meant for the disciples a greater spirit of praise and worship.

us

May each of realize, that whatever other blessings come to us, if we do not have the divine blessing we can have no real, permanent happiness and joy. Let us see those same hands extended to bless each of us.

.....Amen.....

Oct. 28 '23

Eph. 4:L.C.25

V

For we are members one of another.

Most every live organization has a preamble and constitution defining the aim, purpose and the method of operation, and activity of the organization.

Under such a system it is easy for those who become members of the organization to determine the meaning and to learn the value of their membership.

But in an organization where each one who becomes a member is supposed to bring in his own heart, soul and mind the preamble and constitution by which he and all the members are to be governed, to learn the meaning and value of membership may not always be so easy.

The Church of God is such an organization. Those who become members of it have been made ready by the Holy Spirit. And he alone can give the true preamble and constitution of the Church.

Our subject is The Meaning And Value Of Church Membership. We observe:-

- 1-That church membership places us in position where we may become acquainted with God.
- 2-That church membership qualifies us to learn about God's work and its worth.
- 3-That church membership places us in position to become acquainted with God's people.
- 4-That church membership places us in position where we may know God's plan and method.
- 5-That church membership gives us industrial and social standing obtained no where else.
- 6-That one's individual effort for good means most as a church member.
- 7-That church membership enables us to cooperate in joy, suffering, and service.

May the Holy Spirit teach each of us the true meaning and Value of church membership.

.....Amen.....

Nov. 1 '23

ICor. 3:F.C.9 N.Y.C.B.C.

For we are labourers together with

God.

There was a time in the labor world when every man worked for whom he wished or rather for whom he could.

He determined the number of hours that he should work, and the amount of pay that he should receive.

There were no strikes in those days, neither were there very many comforts for the laborer.

This single handed labor was servile. Not much pleasure or profit was found in it.

But there came a day when the individual laborer ceased to bargain for himself alone. He became conscious of the fact that there were other laborers, and that if he would join with them his labor would be worth more and would be more dignified.

Hence all over the civilized world labor unions were organized.

But with all the known advantages of the labor union there are multitudes of men and women all over the world who seem to think that they are better off when they are free to work for whom they please, when they please and for what they please.

And there are ^{those} in the world who seem to think, that in moral, intellectual, and spiritual effort they can go it alone.

Hence we find psychical clubs, mystical fraternities, cultural societies and schools of philosophy, into which God, as revealed in his Word, never enters.

But the Church as an organization and as individual members must always find her greatest joy and delight in being identified with the great Union at whose head is God.

In this union every one is expected to have the spirit of Christ And his labor ceases to be drudgery, and takes on a new dignity and glory. For ⁱⁿ this union we are laborers together with God.

In this union we find all the latest and best methods for doing the work of the Kingdom. Here we find a new heaven and a new earth; here old things are done away and behold all things become new.

Here all the impulses, emotions, and aspirations of the heart soul and mind are expressed in just two activities: work and worship.

The supreme business of the Church is to know and do the work of the Kingdom. So let us see how it is to be done.

Let us learn that the work of the Kingdom should be:-

- 1-Planned-scheduled-
 - a) Something for Everybody
 - b) Something for all the time
 - c) Something of every human interest.
- 2-Done heartily.
 - a) For it is an interesting work.
 - b) For it is a necessary work
 - c) For it is a paying work
- 3-Done hopefully.
 - a) Because we have the very best machinery to use
 - b) Because we have the very best help with whom to work
- 4-Done honestly.
 - a) We are doing it for God
 - b) We are doing it with God.
- 5-Done harmoniously.
 - a) We get the most and best out of our efforts.
 - b) We enlist new workers in the cause.

Let us remember always that God with whom we are laboring must be allowed to map out and plan the work of his Kingdom. We should remember also that the true method for doing his work is found in our guide Book. Let us never go to any other source for directions.

.....Amen.....

Nov. 4 '23 John 7:10, 11, 12, 13. M

But when his brethren had gone up, then went he also up to the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret. Then the Jews sought him at the feast, and said, where is he? And there was much murmuring among the people concerning him: for some said, he is a good man: others said, nay; but he deceiveth the people. Howbeit no man spake openly of him for fear of the Jews. |

Both the Jewish and the christian Churches have always been noted for their feasts, festivals, convocations and assemblies.

The religious leaders of all ages have felt that these institutions were necessary to keep the rank and file of the people in touch with God and his program.

But often the real object of these gatherings has been lost sight of, and the time has been taken up in secondary matters.

Little did the mass of people realize the full meaning of these institutions. They did not know that they all pointed to the Lamb of God.

So in the early christian Church, instead of giving Jesus the place that belonged to him, he was questioned, suspected, doubted and cast out.

Jesus In Our Midst. Let us observe, that when Jesus is in our midst he will:-

- 1-Quiet our fears and put us at ease take away all undue anxiety.
- 2-Comfort, encourage and inspire us; give us new zeal and enthusiasm.
- 3-Direct us in life and save us in death.

May we always realize that the largest and most conspicuous place in all our life belongs to the Lord; and that it is our duty to give it to him. Let us not live in doubt concerning him and his love for us.

Let us trust him all the way and let him lead us into the way of life everlasting.

.....Amen.....

Nov. 11 '23

Isaiah 26:1-4

M

In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah; we have a strong city; salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks. Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth in thee. Trust in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength.

It is well for us who are the children of God, even in the day of adversity to contemplate the good times that are to come, and the prosperity that awaits us.

Even in the darkness of the night we should prepare our song for the coming day.

God's child is always demanding for God and his people the place that belongs to him and them.

With faith and courage they order the closed gates opened, that the righteous nation, the citizens of the Kingdom of God may enter, capture and possess for their King.

The man woman or child whose mind is stayed on God is not influenced by the tumult and confusion of the world. He is kept in perfect peace because he trusteth in God.

Let us observe whom God keeps in perfect peace:

- 1-God engages to keep in perfect peace the person who has the right mental attitude towards him.
- 2-God engages to keep in perfect peace the person who has faith in and trusts him.
- 3-God engages to keep in perfect peace the person who loves him and is willing to serve him.

Let us rejoice always in the fact that it is ours to have peace whatever may be the condition of this old world in which we live.

.....Amen.....

Dec. 2 '23

I Cor. 12:31

M

But covet earnestly the best gifts.

The most important starting point in any of life's achievements is desire.

From here we go to find out what means we must use, and the price we must pay, in order to have our desires satisfied.

Some times it means leaving home and going into a strange country. Some times it means getting more and a better education. Some times it means getting more money and some times it means getting rid of our money.

We must learn who has the power to satisfy our desires and become acquainted with him and his will, so that we may know what course to pursue.

We have no reason to expect the support and aid of the best and strongest forces only in so far as our desires are high, honest and worth while, and we are earnest and sincere.

Let us learn:-

- 1-That the natural healthy state of mind for the people of God is that of desire, hunger, thirst after the best spiritual gifts.
- 2-That for the child of God the best gifts are those gifts for which he has capacity and adaptability.
- 3-That if we would realize our desires for the best spiritual gifts, these desires must supersede and subordinate every other desire.
- 4-That a desire for the best gifts does not come to us until we see the world's need and become anxious to render the very best service in meeting the world's need.

Let us be thankful that the Holy Spirit has given us an earnest desire for the best spiritual gifts.

May we always seek to use these gifts in such a way as to extend the Kingdom and to establish the glory of God in the earth.

.....Amen.....

Dec. 23-'23 Isa. 9:1, 6

pe.

The Old Testament writers all use many symbols and types to attract the attention of the people. The prophet Isaiah could see a New order coming into existence with the birth of this child - the Son.

We observe

- 1st That Christ's natural birth was a symbol of his spiritual birth.
- 2nd That the manner of Christ's natural birth is typical of the manner of his spiritual birth.
- 3rd The reticence with which the people recognized Christ's natural birth is typical of the reticence with which they recognize his spiritual birth.

Let us prepare to enjoy the full benefits of Christ's spiritual birth.

— Amen —

Dec. 30 '23

Matt. 10:42

M

And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

Jesus came into the world not only to reveal God and to bring God down to man, but he came to identify himself with man and to bring man up to God.

Jesus came to identify himself not only with the spiritual part of man, but with the entire man, physical, mental and spiritual. Experiences

And all the natural legitimate experiences through which man passes Jesus passes with him; and this is peculiarly true where a disciple is concerned.

Are you hungry and thirsty he hungers and thirsts with you; are you tired and weary he sympathizes with you; are you sick or deprived of your natural liberty he knows all about it.

So there is no state in which we can be nor is there any service that we endeavor to render in which he is not concerned.

Our subject is:-

Increasing The Value Of Our Religion By Conveying It

On one occasion the Master said, to his disciples, Ye are the light of the world, ye are the salt of the earth.

Potential light with no means to convey it has no significance for those who are groping their way in darkness.

Lamp, oil, wick and match represent what I mean by potential light. But in order for these elements to make and give light they must be properly connected.

Salt may be perfect so far as its strength is concerned. But you do not get its flavor by putting in a beautiful cut glass cellar and locking the cellar up in the side board to keep it from getting broke. But your bread and butter, meat and vegetables are means by which its flavor is conveyed to you.

So with our religion, if we simply keep it and dress it up in self righteousness and keep it hid away in the sanctuary, monastery or nunnery we will never, here nor here after get the reward that we should for having it.

Water as a means for conveying our religion is very significant; for water some times is put for the substance of our religion, indeed our Lord him-